St. James Church~Downingtown, Penna.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

[1843-1943]

A Brief History

OF

ST. JAMES CHURCH

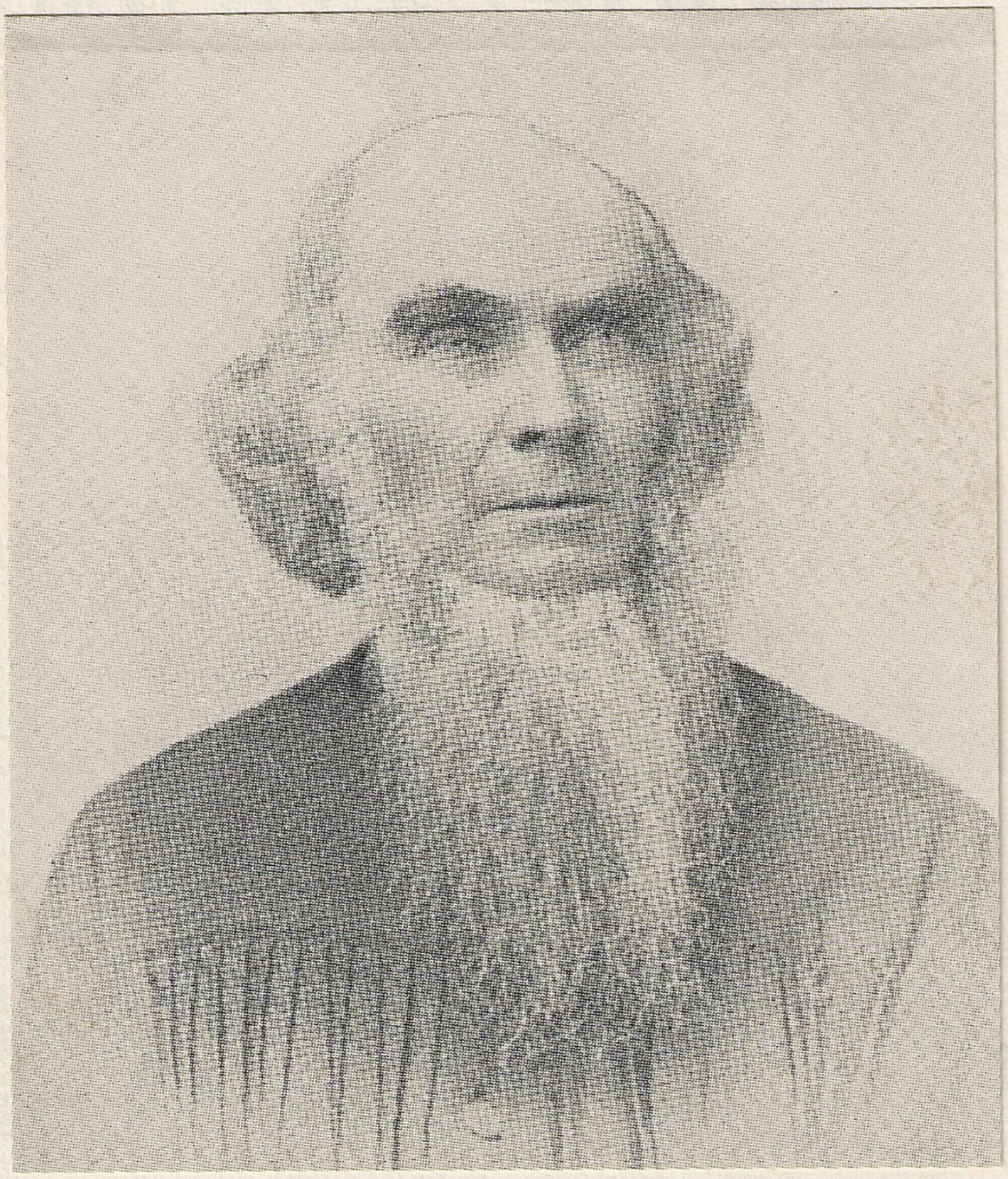
DOWNINGTOWN, PA.

Commemorating the

100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

1843-1943

THE DUNLAP PRINTING CO.



REV. WILLIAM AUGUSTUS WHITE
First Rector of St. James Church—1842-1845

RECTORS OF ST. JAMES CHURCH, DOWNINGTOWN

Rev. William Augustus White . .	1842-1845
Rev. Samuel Hazelhurst	1845-1847
Rev. H. Hastings Weld	1847-1854
Rev. William Porter Ray	1856-1857
Rev. P. B. Morrison	1857-1858
Rev. John B. Henry	1858-1863
Rev. Benjamin A. Rogers	1863-1866
Rev. Jesse Y. Burk	1866-1870
Rev. Robert F. Innes	1871-1880
Rev. William G. Ware	1880-1885
Rev. H. Allen Griffith	1885-1891
Rev. John C. Fair	1891-1897
Rev. Charles H. McLane	1898-1904
Rev. Joseph H. Earp	1905-1911
Rev. Henry B. Bryan	1911-1913
Rev. Henry Riley Gummey, Jr., D.D.	1913-1928
Rev. George Paul Musselman . . .	1929-1937
Rev. Edgar H. Yeoman	1937-1941
Rev. Peter C. Van der Hiel, Jr. . .	1941-

A Brief History

IN THE EARLY FALL of the year 1842 the rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, West Chester, the Rev. Gregory T. Bedell, who later became Bishop of Ohio, conducted a divine service at the home of Dr. Andrew Wills, afterwards owned and occupied by Dr. John P. Edge (now 437 E. Lancaster Ave.), for a devout gathering of citizens of Downingtown. This service was so highly appreciated that a committee was formed which asked the West Chester rector to continue these services in connection with his work at the Church of the Holy Trinity. Mr. Bedell felt, however, that the two towns were too far from each other to take charge of this new undertaking and suggested that a Parish be formed in Downingtown. At his suggestion twelve gentlemen were appointed to act as vestrymen and the Rev. William Augustus White of Boston was invited to become the first rector of the Parish. Mr. White conducted his first service at Downingtown at the Wills' home on November 20, 1842, at which service the first baptism of the Parish occurred when James McCrodden, born January 1, 1842, was baptized by the new rector. A parish meeting followed this service and the following twelve vestrymen were nominated and elected: Messrs. John D. Steele, John F. Parke, J. B. Moorehead, Gideon Taylor, Charles Pusey, Allen W. Wills, Dr. Andrew Wills, John McKinley, J. Dutton Steel, Joshua Hunt, John Hunter (of West Chester) and Dr. J. Stuart Leech.

Permission was obtained to use the Masonic Hall, the building which is now the rectory, and during the winter months the services were conducted in that edifice.

It became apparent that the newly formed congregation was unable to sustain a resident clergyman but through the generosity of the Missionary Society of St. James Parish, Philadelphia, which Society contributed the sum of $400 for a period of two years, the burden was eased. In appreciation of this generous offer it was

resolved that the new Parish in Downingtown should take the name of St. James. At a meeting of the vestry in May, 1843, the charter was drawn up:

> "Whereas the subscribers have together with other citizens of the State of Pennsylvania associated for the purpose of worshipping Almighty God according to the faith and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America; and have for that purpose formed a congregation at Downingtown in Chester County and are now desirous to be incorporated agreeably to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania passed the sixth of April, 1791; the name of the Corporation shall be: THE RECTOR, WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN OF ST. JAMES CHURCH, DOWNINGTOWN."

This charter, which became effective in 1844, served the Parish for exactly one hundred years and is being replaced this year by the new charter, which will become in force in 1944.

Plans for the building of a church were presented and on June 20, 1843, the cornerstone of the church edifice was laid on a plot of ground next to the Masonic Hall, the Rev. Messrs. Rees, Clemson, Kirke and White taking part in this ceremony. The church building was completed in four months and was consecrated October 26, 1843, by the Rt. Rev. H. U. Onderdonk, D.D., then Bishop of Pennsylvania. At this service the following clergy were present: Rev. Drs. Clay and Freeman and Rev. Messrs. Morton, Buchanan, Prescott, Clemson, Colton, Rees, Hearst, Ridgely, Kirke and White.

Quoting from the early records: "The church edifice belonging to this Parish is neat, substantial and commodious, and built of good materials." The cost including land was from $1600 to $2000.

On May 26, 1844, five infants were baptized in the new church, the first child to be baptized being Hamilton Balentine, born March 22, 1843. The vessel used at that occasion was loaned to the rector and later presented to the church by Mrs. J. T. Fox.

The first Episcopal Sunday School was started in the large stone residence of Benjamin Hyatt, the site now being occupied by the stores on the northwest corner of Stuart Ave. and Lancaster Pike.

It is quite apparent from our records that the Rev. Mr. White was a gifted poet, and hymns and poems relating to the Parish

and composed for various occasions are still in our possession. The success of Mr. White's rectorship can be judged by the firm foundation which he laid for this Parish and the spiritual fellowship and communion then started has continued for a century. Mr. White resigned in July, 1845, and the Rev. Samuel Hazelhurst, the second rector of the Parish, entered upon his duties in October of the same year. The splendid work started by Mr. White was continued. Mr. Hazelhurst left the Parish in May, 1847, to be succeeded by the Rev. H. Hasting Weld, in whose memory the altar cross was given at a later date. Of Mr. Weld we read in "The History of Downingtown":

> "Mr. Weld was an able and faithful man, like many another clergyman, from Apostolic days to the present. He was a sturdy laborer with his hands as well as with his brain, and there are those in the community who worked by his side in the harvest field. He possessed a facile pen, and, besides editing a monthly magazine, called 'The Mentor,' he frequently contributed to the current literature of the day."

During his rectorship the present rectory was purchased. As previously mentioned it was originally a Masonic Hall belonging to the Downingtown Lodge No. 174, which Lodge went out of existence about the year 1832. For several years the building was tenanted by the Rev. George Kirke, a missionary who was doing faithful work at the Alms House and Jail. At one time the building was sold to the Roman Catholic Church by the owner, Joshua Hunt, Esq., but as after a short time they gave up their purchase, the building returned to the Hunt family. In 1851 the vestry of St. James Church made an appeal for funds in order to purchase the property as a rectory. Bishop Potter added his approval of the enterprise and commended it to the liberality of the Church. This appeal is most fascinating to those interested in the history of the Parish and reads in part:

> "About $200 annually have been raised, besides the pew rents. This amount has been expended in the improvement of the property, increasing the church sittings, purchasing a musical instrument, erecting horse-sheds, laying out of the graveyard and other necessary outlays.

"The present income of the church, the greatest probably that it can expect in so small a building, allows the payment of only $200 per annum to the rector. Fuel, interest, sexton, lights, etc., require an annual subscription to meet their payment. The insufficiency of the support to the rector has occasioned frequent changes (three rectors having been here in seven years).

"To secure more permanence the Vestry have decided to provide a rectory; and are in negotiation for a building and a lot for that purpose. Several reasons make it imperative that it should be done at once. An eligible building and lot adjoining the churchyard are offered at a low price. The purchase of this property would leave margin for the enlargement of the yard and, if necessary, of the church. If not purchased by the church, the property will be bought by some other purchaser, and the church be shut out from a lot more valuable to this corporation than to any other party.

"The projected Valley Railroad has its Western Terminus in Downingtown. This, should it be completed, will increase the need of the church accommodation. If additions of church people are not made to the permanent population, there will certainly be an increase of summer visitors to the delightful valley of Chester County."

This appeal, which was several pages in length, resulted in raising sufficient funds to purchase the Masonic Hall, the cost of the building and the original alterations being $1600.

Mr. Weld's rectorship was indeed a most successful one and after he resigned in July, 1854, he was for many years the "successful and beloved rector of the Parish in Riverton, N. J., a faithful servant unto his life's end." William Augustus White in his poem, "Holydays of the Heart," refers to his ministry in the following words:

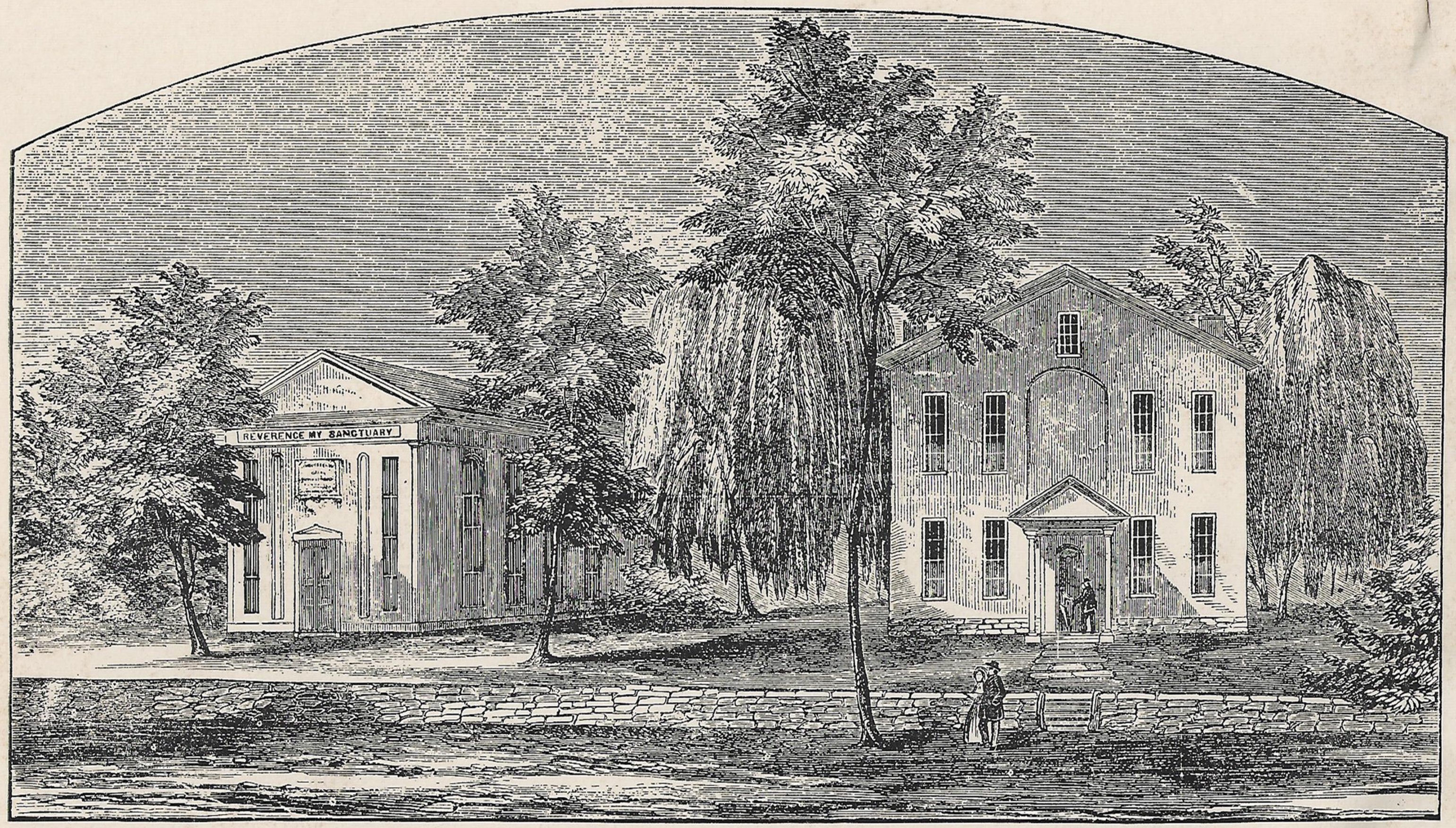
"One pastor here all hearts in union held—
The faithful priest, the gentle teacher, Weld;
Long years by him the precious seed was sown,
Till plants were seen, like 'goodly cedars' grown."

We have in our possession a newspaper clipping taken from "The Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion," the issue

being dated April 29, 1854. It contains an article about St. James Church with an illustration, which has been reproduced elsewhere in this booklet. We quote from this article: "As the hall (the Masonic Hall) was in the second story, the rectordwelling seems to be larger than the church—a fault that will soon be corrected, however, by the enlargement of the latter. The site is pleasant, the scenery beautiful, the population intelligent, and Downingtown is altogether one of the pleasantest villages in the country. The location of the church, which we have here represented, its general appearance and the surroundings, strongly remind one of the quiet and beautiful structures, of the same nature, in the rural districts of England. Let such graceful and simple temples be multiplied, and goodly shall be their influence."

The Rev. William Porter Ray succeeded Mr. Weld in 1856 and was rector of the Parish until 1857; after his resignation the Rev. P. B. Morrison served St. James Church for a period of one year. In the year 1858 the Rev. John B. Henry was called to become the rector. Of Mr. Henry it has been said: "A man of earnestness of purpose, faithful and zealous in his work, a successful pastor, who left behind the record of a diligent servant of the master."

In Advent of the year 1863 the Rev. Benjamin A. Rogers began his ministry here. The church was enlarged, the wings, sanctuary and the steeple built, various memorial windows put in place and the edifice received the appearance it has today (the cross on the steeple was added on a later date), a worthy monument to Almighty God, simple, well proportioned, with graceful lines and a steeple of unusual architectural beauty. Ill health forced Mr. Rogers to resign in April, 1866, and in June of that year the Rev. Jesse Y. Burk accepted the invitation of the vestry and for four years he worked ardently for the Parish. He was a preacher of outstanding reputation, and during his ministry it is said that the pulpit of St. James became a power in the community. It was during his rectorship that the Parish reached its first milestone and on October 26, 1868, the twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated. It was a delightful occasion indeed, and the faithful workers of the church could look back with no little satisfaction on the struggles and victory of the first quarter of a century. The Parish was well established now and with an ever growing community to draw from the future looked



St. James Church and Masonic Hall in 1843

bright. Many clergymen were present at this service, among whom were the former rectors: White, Hazelhurst and Weld. The Rev. William Augustus White composed a poem for the occasion and strikes a very interesting note as he describes the church in its first years:

"The little church, a modest, comely place,
That bore, of gorgeous art, no sign or trace,
Then meekly rose, without a dome or spire,
Exceeding simple in its best attire.
It had no cross; for some, like Hebrews, thought
That was a stumbling block if hither brought;
And others said, it was sure finesse,
If he who preached should in the surplice dress."

Mr. Burk left the Parish in February, 1870. The Rev. William White Montgomery received a call to the rectorship but deferred the acceptance of the same, continuing as Minister in Charge until April, 1871, when the Rev. Robert F. Innes became rector. A tragic event was to happen to the Innes family during their stay in Downingtown, when their ten-year-old son Roy fell out of a tree and was killed instantly. From then on Mrs. Innes devoted her life to the care of crippled children, and she and her husband founded the House of the Merciful Saviour for Crippled Children in Philadelphia. Sister Sarah, who at that time was a parishioner of St. James, was placed in charge. Sister Sarah, a member of the Sisterhood of St. Mary of New York City, came to Downingtown during Mr. Innes' rectorship to nurse a sick aunt. "During this lengthy sojourn at Downingtown," she writes in her memoirs, "I was much impressed by the ignorance and degradation of the coloured people of the place." She was instrumental in the building of the present parish house, in which she started a Sunday School for colored children. Sister Sarah gave $400 (all that she possessed) for that purpose and a generous gift from Miss Susan Gorgas, of the Church of the Holy Trinity, West Chester, made the building possible. With the co-operation of Mr. and Mrs. Innes, Sister Sarah did wonderful work for the colored people of the town.

During Mr. Innes' ministry here, the rectory was enlarged and the cemetery removed to a portion of "Northwood," since

an 1874 borough ordinance forbade the burying of the dead within the borough limits. Mr. Innes' rectorship in Downingtown was of great spiritual significance, not only to the Church but also to the entire community. Mr. Ware writes of him: "He won many friends during his pastorate."

The Rev. W. G. Ware entered upon his duties as rector December 15, 1880. He was able to cancel the debt of $1500 which was burdening the Parish and an organ was purchased and installed with the money from a legacy left by the late Mrs. Emily Thomas, in memory of her son. It was built by William King, of Elmira, N. Y., at the cost of about one thousand dollars. This organ served the congregation for more than sixty years. Mr. Ware resigned August 31, 1884, and was succeeded by the Rev. Allen Griffith, during whose ministry "the location of the organ was changed, and the church beautifully decorated in oil colours." Miss Jennie Makens, only twelve years old, became organist and, in spite of her youth, was one of the best organists St. James has ever had. After having served the Parish for almost six years Mr. Griffith resigned and at the suggestion of the Rev. William Bull, of "Ivy Cottage," Whitford, the Rev. John C. Fair was called to the rectorship of the Downingtown Church. Another milestone was reached during his pastorate and on October 26, 1893, the congregation and friends of St. James gathered in their church to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of the building. The service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. O. W. Whitaker, D.D., then Bishop of the Diocese, who was assisted by the Rev. John Bolton, Dean of the Convocation of Chester; the Rev. Messrs. White, of Tacony; Innes, of Philadelphia; Ware, of York; Haughton, of Bryn Mawr; Allen, of Glenloch; Bishop, of Paoli; Boyer, of Pequea; Miller, of Collingdale; Keller, of Radnor; Ayer, of Philadelphia, and the rector of the Parish. Mr. Ware preached the sermon and Mr. White presented a poem which he had written for the occasion.

It was during Mr. Fair's ministry here that the memorial baptistry and font were given by Mrs. Charles W. Walker in memory of her sister, Edith H. Coppuck. A magnificent communion set was presented in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Baker.

The Rev. Mr. Fair left the Parish in the early summer of 1897 and for a period of a year the Parish was without a resident

clergyman, the services being conducted by visiting clergymen, among whom were the Rev. Messrs. Benjamin R. Phelps, James J. Creigh and Norman Van Pelt Levis. In 1898 the Rev. Charles H. McLane was called to St. James. The St. James Guild was organized and the faithful workers of this splendid organization have labored zealously and devoutly ever since for the welfare of the Parish. The first president of the Guild, Miss Mary Wells, is still with us today. She has worked hard for the church and for many years was our organist. Her work in the Sunday School will also be remembered. She is still an active member of the Guild-Auxiliary and an inspiration to many.

On February 12, 1899, the death occurred of Stuart Leech Holliday, a member of this Parish, and while only 19 years old at his death, of great musical promise. A Memorial Service was held which was attended by his many friends.

Mr. McLane, of whom an historian writes, "He had an attractive personality and a well trained mind and did much to bring the church to the young men of the town," was succeeded in February, 1905, by the Rev. Joseph H. Earp. During the seven years of his rectorship many improvements were made. The vested choir was organized, the church redecorated, the parish house enlarged; the Guild raised funds for a carpet in the aisle and chancel of the church. Mrs. George Francis Fox presented new cushions for the pews; the brass processional cross, now in use, was presented in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Edge by their daughters, the lectern was placed in the church in memory of Mrs. Rebecca Ringwalt, the pulpit in memory of Blanche Irene and Stuart Leech Holliday.

A parishioner of outstanding devotion should be mentioned here, Miss Jane E. Ringwalt, who started the Woman's Auxiliary and was for many years an officer of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Convocation of Chester. She did remarkable work in the Sunday School as head of the Primary Department. Her interest in missionary work had an inspiring influence on those with whom she came in contact.

In Lent, 1911, Mr. Earp accepted a call to become Assistant Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles in Philadelphia, and on November 1st of that year the Rev. Henry B. Bryan, one time Archdeacon of Panama, succeeded him. Of him it has been said

that he was "a fine administrator and the church flourished under his care." The rectory was improved and enlarged, the eucharistic candlesticks were placed on the altar in memory of the ninth rector of the Parish, the Rev. R. F. Innes, by his daughter, Mrs. Innes-Lloyd; a credence table was given in memory of Mrs. Mary Baxter, and a hymnboard was presented by the friends of Mr. Abner C. Baldwin in commemoration of the completion of forty years of active church work. In 1913 occurred the death of one of the prominent members of the Parish, Abner Wills. In his will St. James received a legacy of $10,000 for an endowment fund.

An interesting relic was presented to St. James in the form of an ancient tile. This tile, which was placed on the Epistle side of the sanctuary, has the following superscription:

> "This old tile of Roman origin, circa 600, from the choir, circa 615, and of the pavement of the Confessional, circa 1360, of the Ancient Collegiate Church of St. Mary, Warwich, England, is here placed to symbolize the way of reconciliation." A. D. 1913.

After Mr. Bryan resigned as rector the Rev. Dr. Henry Riley Gummey, Jr., then professor at Sewanee University, served the Parish from 1913 to 1928, being the longest service rendered by any rector of the Parish. Dr. Gummey was a scholar, a recognized theologian, and considered an outstanding authority on the Prayer Book. He organized the first Boy Scout Troop in Downingtown and the second oldest in Chester County. This troop exists today and has continued to meet in St. James Parish House. The pew rents were abolished and the present envelope system introduced. The beautiful communion chalice, which is now in use, and a paten were given in memory of Mrs. Sylvester Makens and Miss Jennie Goodcock by Mrs. Walter Larkin, Mrs. W. W. E. Ash and Miss Octavia Makens. There are many in our midst today who will recall also Mrs. Gummey, a member of the Upjohn family, and greatly beloved by the entire Parish. Her spirituality was most helpful to all who worked with her. In 1928 Dr. Gummey was invited to join the faculty of the Philadelphia Divinity School and he left St. James and his many friends in the fall of that year.

The Rev. George Paul Musselman, born and brought up in the neighboring town of New Holland and formerly a member of the Mennonite Church, came to St. James in 1929. Many in Downingtown will always remember him as a humorous speaker and an eloquent preacher. He united the three women's organizations, the Woman's Auxiliary, the Parish Guild and the Altar Guild, into one organization, known as the present Guild-Auxiliary.

A most successful mission was conducted by Fr. Harrison, of the Order of the Holy Cross, an event which was of lasting spiritual benefit to the Parish. The present heating system was installed and the light fixtures, now used in the church, were purchased. Under the able direction of the gifted architect, Mr. Gilbert McIlvaine, who was rector's warden, the interior of the church was entirely redecorated and St. James became one of the most beautiful rural churches of the Diocese. The floor in the sanctuary was given by Mrs. Walter B. McIlvain. The dossal curtain was given in memory of Mrs. Mary E. Ashbridge; the altar vases in memory of Richard I. D. Ashbridge by Mr. Joseph and Miss Eleanor Ashbridge. Mr. Musselman resigned in 1934 to become Assistant Rector of Calvary Church, New York, and devote more time to the Oxford Group Movement, in which he was intensely interested. Today he is rector of St. Alban's Church, Highland Park, Detroit.

Rev. Edgar H. Yeoman accepted the call extended to him by the vestry in 1934. A most enthusiastic person, he helped the women of the Parish with a very successful bazaar, the proceeds of which enabled the vestry to put both the church and the rectory in perfect order. A large reduction was made in the Parish debt and the Rector's Aid presented the church with the new carpet in the center aisle. The Sunday School, under the leadership of Mr. John P. Noll, who in various capacities has served the church faithfully for many years, grew steadily. The choir was greatly improved under the direction of the rector and Mr. Robert Hunt, Jr., and many will recall the lovely Christmas services. A white frontal was given by Mrs. Esther Edge in memory of John and Mary Edge, a green one by Mr. and Mrs. Noll in memory of Mrs. Ruth Noll Wenzell. Mrs. Walter B. McIlvain, whose love and devotion to the church will long be remembered and who today is the chairman of the Altar Guild Committee,

REV. PETER C. VAN DER HIEL, JR.
The Present Rector

made the beautiful needlepoint kneeling cushions in front of the altar rail and presented them to the church in memory of her mother, Mrs. Fanny Brown Baird. The sanctuary light, given by Miss Annie Brown, is also in her memory. An old Russian Icon, of the late eighteenth century, and of great beauty, was given in memory of Sarah E. Moore. This icon, which adds much to the beauty of the altar, has been admired by many. Originally it belonged in the private collection of Czarina Alexandra Feodorovna, wife of Nicholas II, the late Czar of Russia, and is registered in the Schaffer Collection of the Russian Imperial Art Treasures.

In 1937 the Parish lost a faithful servant in Mr. W. W. E. Ash, for many years one of the outstanding members of the choir and a vestryman for a long time. One of the chancel Prayer Books was given in his memory.

Mr. Yeoman left the Parish in June, 1941, and is at present rector of St. Timothy's Church, Chicago, Ill. The present rector, the Rev. Peter C. Van der Hiel, Jr., came to St. James in October, 1941, from Philadelphia, where he had been Assistant Rector at Holy Trinity Church. To him it is a great privilege indeed to be rector of the Parish at the celebration of the centennial. He has served the Parish for two years and, after reading and writing about the nineteen rectors who have served before him, is wondering right now what they will be writing about him at the next anniversary. Since 1941 various memorials have been presented to the church and several gifts made. Two frontals were given in memory of Mrs. John P. Noll, a devout churchworker for many years. A beautiful pall was given in memory of Mrs. Fanny Brown Baird by Mrs. Walter B. McIlvain. New choir hymnals were given by Mrs. Ellis Y. Brown, Jr., in memory of her parents, Philip and Mary Godley. An American and a church flag were given by the congregation, a service flag was given by Mr. and Mrs. Clair E. Becker, in honor of their son and dedicated to all the members of the Parish who are now serving their country in the armed forces. A stole was given by Mr. and Mrs. Gilliam in memory of Thomas H. Gilliam. Mrs. W. Poyntell Canby gave several beautiful altar linens. A legacy of $500, left in the will of Miss Lucy and Mr. Robert Parke in memory of their parents, was used toward the purchase of a

new organ, the remaining $1400 needed being raised by the congregation in less than three weeks.

A second processional cross was designed by the rector, an outside sign placed in front of the church, the church and parish house painted under the leadership of Mr. Arthur Phillips and Mr. William G. Jobe.

A beautiful Honor Roll was presented by the family of Elizabeth Thomas McIlvaine, a great churchworker, who is sadly missed by her many friends at the day of our anniversary.

Many other memorials have been given to the church in the course of its hundred years of existence. They were given by friends of the Parish and in memory of those who so faithfully and devoutly worked for St. James. Mr. Joseph S. Ashbridge resigned from the vestry early in 1943. For more than fifty years he was an active vestryman and was at one time one of the wardens. His devout service to the church and his loyalty to the Parish will be remembered for many years. Upon his resignation he was elected honorary vestryman of the Parish for life. The splendid work of the present vestry also will be remembered for a long time. Our wardens, W. Poyntell Canby and John P. Noll, have been faithful in performing their duties. The chairman of the Every Member Canvass, Charles C. Perrin, has done an outstanding work for our church. The Misses May Roberts and Mary Rodgers for many years have devoted much of their time to the work of the Altar Guild. The church, indeed, can boast a very faithful and loyal congregation, and many names not mentioned in this history well deserve to have been mentioned.

As we stand on the threshold of our one hundredth anniversary the war has thrown a deep shadow over the entire world. Many young persons have left the peaceful valley in order to defend the principles of our country on horrible battlefields or tumultuous seas. There will be hardship and suffering for many and deep will be the grief and sorrow in many a heart. We are thankful for the privilege of receiving help, comfort and guidance from the realization that in spite of the noise of battle, in spite of the hatred and jealousy, in spite of torture and suffering and want, there is, moving along in this universe of ours, a Force which cannot be shaken. A Force which was and is and

always shall be, a Force which is Truth, Honesty, Righteousness and Love in its perfection, and that no people, no epoch in history, will ever be able to destroy—because that Force is God—and no one can destroy God. We in Downingtown are thankful that we have this place of worship, where we can come and feel the warmth of the Presence of God. We look back and say: "Has not God done enough for us in the past, that we can trust Him in the years to come?" We know that some day Peace will rule on this earth again, and the valley of Chester, with all its charm and beauty, with its old Church of St. James, will welcome back those who had to leave it because of the noise of battle.

If it were possible for the present rector to shake hands with the first pastor of this historic church, we both would say the same, though the former might use poetry and the latter use prose: "St. James, it is a great church!" We are very grateful to the many Christian workers whose hard struggles and devout dedication founded the Parish of St. James. And what a blessed thought it is that we, who are called to start off the second century of this Parish, are in a very real sense co-workers with those who have lived and died in this Parish—we are simply called to continue their work, just as our children will take up where we leave off. And since the sincerity of our religion, the sincerity of our devotion to the Church will be judged by our children and children's children by the way we perform the task which is set before us today, may God grant that the same fellowship and devotion which have built St. James during the past century may always continue, and that we add to a glorious past a glorious future.

P. C. Van der Hiel, Jr.

THE VESTRY - 1943

Mr. W. Poyntell Canby, *Senior Warden*
Mr. John P. Noll, *Accounting Warden*
Mr. W. W. E. Ash, Jr., *Secretary*
Mr. Joseph S. Ashbridge, *Honorary Member*
Dr. Carl F. Dent
Mr. H. Raymond Greenleaf
Mr. Wallace B. Houston, Jr.
Mr. Donald McIlvaine, Sr.
Mr. Robert T. Moore
Mr. Theodore R. Noll
Mr. Charles C. Perrin
Mr. Arthur Phillips
Mr. Chandler P. Roberts

THE GUILD-AUXILIARY

Mrs. H. Raymond Greenleaf . . . . . *President*
Mrs. Arthur Phillips . . . . . *Vice-President*
Mrs. J. Gibson McIlvain, 2nd . . . . . *Secretary*
Miss Frances Edge McIlvaine . . *Corresponding Secretary*
Miss Octavia Makens . . . . . *Treasurer*
Mrs. Walter B. McIlvaine . . . . . *Altar Guild*

THE CHOIR

Miss Elizabeth Hines . . . . *Organist and Choir Director*

CHURCH SCHOOL

Rev. Peter C. Van der Hiel, Jr. . . . . *Superintendent*
Robert Grieb — Bruce Bird . . . . . *Secretaries*
Mrs. Arthur Phillips . . . . *In charge of Nursery Dept.*
Miss Margaret Balentine . *In charge of Kindergarten Dept.*
Mrs. G. Walter Suplee . . . *In charge of Primary Dept.*
Mr. Thomas Greenleaf . . . . *In charge of Junior Boys*
Miss Elizabeth Suplee . . . . *In charge of Junior Girls*
Miss Elizabeth Hines . . . . . *In charge of Senior Girls*
The Rector . . . . . *In charge of Senior Boys*

THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Miss Eleanor Ashbridge
Mr. W. W. E. Ash, Jr.
Mrs. Ellis Y. Brown, Jr.
Mr. W. Poyntell Canby
Mrs. Jacob Edge
Mrs. H. Raymond Greenleaf
Mr. William M. Lloyd
Mrs. Walter B. McIlvain
Mr. Donald McIlvaine, Sr.
Mr. John P. Noll
Mr. Charles C. Perrin
Mr. Arthur Phillips
Mr. Chandler P. Roberts
Rev. Peter C. Van der Hiel, Jr.

Committee on the Centennial Service

Mr. W. Poyntell Canby, *Chairman*
Mr. Charles C. Perrin
Mr. John P. Noll

The Anniversary Book

Miss Eleanor Ashbridge, *Chairman*
Mrs. Ellis Y. Brown, Jr.
Rev. Peter C. Van der Hiel, Jr.

Invitations

Mrs. Ellis Y. Brown, Jr.

Exhibit

Mrs. Jacob Edge

Decorations

Mrs. Walter B. McIlvaine

Reception

Mrs. H. Raymond Greenleaf